

Remarks

In the subject Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 11-12, and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by the cited patents to Scotti and/or Lambert, and the rejection was made final. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, but also recognizes and appreciates the Examiner's conclusion that claims 6-10, 13, and 16-17 recite allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the claims be amended as follows in order to take the allowable subject matter and place the application in condition for allowance.

Applicant requests that claims 1-2, 6, and 12-13 be cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant requests that claim 3 be amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 6 (there were no intervening claims).

Applicant requests that allowable claim 7 be amended to appear in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 3 (there were no intervening claims).

Applicant requests that claim 11 be amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 13, as well as the limitations of intervening claim 12.

Applicant requests that each of allowable claims 16 and 17 be amended to appear in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 11 (there were no intervening claims).

Having placed the allowable subject matter in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is always welcome to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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